

RESOURCE SURVEY REPORT

Catch Summary

NOAA Fisheries Service
Northeast Fisheries Science Center

Winter Bottom Trawl Survey
Cape Hatteras - SE Georges Bank
February 7 – March 2, 2006

This report consists of field notes, station and catch summaries and a series of geographical plots of commercially and recreationally important species caught during the Northeast Fisheries Science Center's 2006 winter bottom trawl survey aboard the *R/V ALBATROSS IV*. Tows were made with a standardized #36 Yankee flat trawl equipped with a rubber disc covered chain sweep, 30 fathom ground cables, 5 fathom legs and 1000 pound polyvalent doors. The cod end and upper belly were lined with 1/2-inch mesh to retain young-of-the-year fish.

Because of the 30-minute tow duration, and random selection of station locations, catches can be light compared to commercial tows. Also, vessel operations are on a 24-hour basis and catches have not been adjusted for day/night differences. Nevertheless, these data can provide fishermen useful information about distribution and relative abundance of species inhabiting the survey area (Cape Hatteras to Georges Bank).

The data are now summarized from audited catch files generated from the Fisheries Scientific Computer System (FSCS).

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